

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: IEA/SOM AD HOC GROUP OTTAWA MEETING SEPTEMBER 8, 1975.

1. SUMMARY. THE SOM AD HOC GROUP UNDER CHAIRMAN HOPPER (CANADA) AT END OF LONG MEETING AGREED TO CIRCULATE TO SOM DELEGATES DRAFT LANGUAGE OF A COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ON THE ISSUE OF SUBMISSION OF DISAGGREGATED DATA TO THE IEA. AGGREGATION WOULD CONTINUE THROUGH 1976 AT WHICH TIME A REVIEW OF THE SYSTEM WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN. THE INDUSTRY WORKING PARTY (IWP) SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SOM A MEANS OF ELABORATING THE CRUDE OIL COST REPORTING SYSTEM. THE SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER 19 MEETING OF THE SOM WAS POSTPONED UNTIL OCTOBER 14 - 15.

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2. AGGREGATION/DISAGGREGATION. THE COMPROMISE PROPOSAL (ANNEX II, IEA/SOM (75) 25) CIRCULATED UNDER COVER OF THE CHAIRMAN'S NOTE (OECD 22373) WAS REJECTED IMMEDIATELY BY DANISH AND ITALIAN DELEGATES. FOLLOWING UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS BY CHAIRMAN TO IMPRESS UPON THOSE DELEGATES FAVORING DISAGGREGATION THE FACT THAT SUCH A SOLUTION WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO OTHER COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY U.S., AND A STONG INTERVENTION BY UK DELEGATE (LINDLEY) EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF RESOLVING ISSUE IN THE SOM

AND NOT WANTING A GOVERNING BOARD VOTE ON THE MATTER, THE AD HOC GROUP FINALLY ARRIVED AT DRAFT LANGUAGE WHICH WILL BE CIRCULATED BY THE SECRETARIAT. ESSENTIALLY, AGGREGATION WOULD CONTINUE THROUGH 1976, WITH A REVIEW OF THE SYSTEM SCHEDULED FOR LATE IN THAT YEAR. THE WORDING OF THE TEXT PERMITS COUNTRIES FAVORING DISAGGREGATION TO GAIN SOME DOMESTIC POLITICAL BENEFIT. IN LIGHT OF NEED TO PERMIT DELEGATIONS NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE AD HOC GROUP TO STUDY COMPROMISE LANGUAGE, AND IF NECESSARY FURTHER CONSULTATIONS BY THE CHAIRMAN, THE SOM MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19 WAS DEFERRED UNTIL OCTOBER 14 AND 15.

3. CRUDE OIL COST REPORTING. THE IWP REPORTED TO THE AD HOC GROUP AND PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSION CONCERNING FURTHER ELABORATION OF THE CRUDE OIL COST REPORTING SYSTEM (IEA/SOM (7511) ANNEX C). THE IWP ARGUED THAT NO FURTHER DETAIL OF CRUDE OIL COSTS WAS NEEDED BUT PROVIDED A SCHEME BY WHICH OWN PRODUCTION AND CONCESSIONARY PURCHASES COULD BE FURTHER BROKEN DOWN. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE CIRCULATED BY THE IEA SECRETARIAT AND WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF FULL SOM REVIEW IN OCTOBER.

4. OTHER ISSUES. BRIEF DISCUSSIONS OF THE SECURITY SYSTEM OF THE IEA SECRETARIAT AND OF THE ANALYSES PRESENTLY BEING DEVELOPED BY THE SECRETARIAT CONCERNING CRUDE OIL PRICES WERE INCONCLUSIVE AND RECOGNIZED TO BE INAPPROPRIATE SINCE THE FORUM WAS AN AD HOC GROUP RATHER THAN THE FULL SOM. FURTHER DISCUSSION WAS DEFERRED UNTIL OCTOBER.

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5. ATTENDEES. SEVEN COUNTRIES AND THE IEA SECRETARIAT WERE REPRESENTED ON THE AD HOC GROUP AS FOLLOWS: CANADA (CHAIRMAN HOPPER AND PRIDDLE); DENMARK (ABRAHAMSEN AND CHRISTIANSON); GERMANY (VOGLER); ITALY (ROSSONI); SWEDEN (MALSTROM); UK (LINDLEY); USA (MALIN, OLIVER, AND ROSEN); SECRETARIAT (BRYANT). SISCO

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